

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS STATE 307358

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SCARRITT

E.O11652: N/A

TAGS: ABUD, EMIN, ENRG

SUBJECT: REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER

REF: (A) STATE 245655; (B) JAKARTA 12990

1. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WE INADVERTENTLY FAILED TO ADVISE THE EMBASSY THAT A REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER POSITION WAS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN JAKARTA POSSIBLY THIS WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT M/MO CONTEMPLATED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JAKARTA POSITION WAS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ADDING THE BROADER RESPONSIBILITIES TO POSITION NO. 20-5010-165 ENCUMBERED BY MARK JOHNSON. IN ANY EVENT, WE EXTEND OUR APOLOGIES, AND NOW SOLICIT THE AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF THESE DUTIES, AS DESCRIBED BELOW, BEING ADDED TO THOSE OF CITED POSITION NUMBER.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 307358

2. OFFICER IN THIS POSITION IS TASKED WITH COVERAGE OF INDONESIAN AS WELL AS PHILIPPINE RESOURCE MATTERS BECAUSE DEPARTMENT SEES STRONG NEED FOR COVERAGE OF RESOURCES IN BOTH COUNTRIES BY A SPECIALIZED OFFICER, BECAUSE NO OTHER REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER IS ABLE TO PROVIDE THE COVERAGE REQUIRED WITHOUT SERIOUS LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS, AND BECAUSE

INTENT OF PROGRAM HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO PROVIDE COVERAGE BY REGION.

3. OBJECTIVE OF PROGRAM IS THAT REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER COVER BOTH PETROLEUM AND MINERALS MATTERS WITHIN HIS REGION. HEAVY EMPHASIS ON ONE TYPE OF WORK IS ACCEPTABLE IF REQUIRED BY LOCAL CONDITIONS. HOWEVER, CONCENTRATION BY REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER ON ONE OF THESE TWO FIELDS TO EXCLUSION OF THE OTHER WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OBJECTIVES OF PROGRAM.

4. FOR GENERAL INFORMATION OF POST, PRINCIPAL DUTIES OF REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER ARE AS FOLLOWS: OFFICER IS CHARGED WITH COLLECTING BROAD RANGE OF INFORMATION AND DATA ON COMMODITIES RELATING TO ASSIGNED REGION AND REPORTING ON IT IN TIMELY AND ANALYTICAL FASHION. WORK IS SUPPOSED TO BE BASED BOTH ON DIRECT OBSERVATION AND ON CONTACTS WITH KEY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS WITHIN EACH COUNTRY OF DESIGNATED REGION. OFFICER ALSO CHARGED WITH ASSISTING POSTS IN REGION TO DEVELOP AND EVALUATE INFORMATION ON MINERALS AND PETROLEUM RESERVES AND PRODUCTION, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVISING THEM ON TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASPECTS OF WASHINGTON REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. IN THIS CONNECTION, OFFICER EXPECTED TO STRESS DEPARTMENT'S NEED FOR INFORMATION ON OTHER GOVERNMENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARD COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS AND ON POLITICAL-ECONOMIC FACTORS SHAPING THOSE ATTITUDES.

5. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE TO ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR POST'S TRAVEL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS SO THAT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 307358

DETERMINATION OF BUDGET NEEDS CAN BE MADE IN NEAR FUTURE.

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